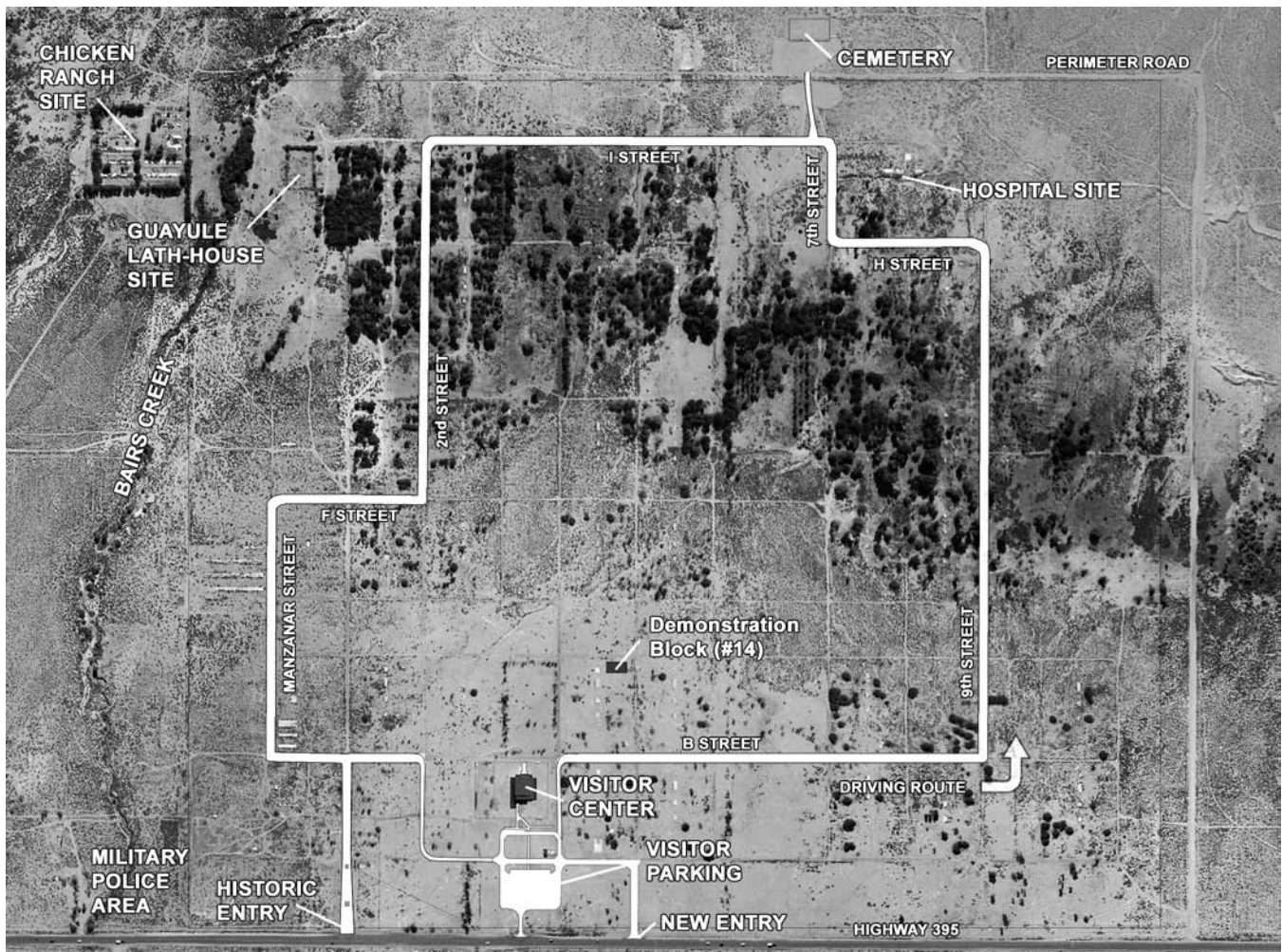


Cultural Landscape Report - Draft Treatment Summary

July 2005

The Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) for Manzanar consolidates existing research and documents the physical character and development of the War Relocation Center between 1942 and 1945. Based on the evaluation of resources, the CLR proposes treatment for the preservation of cultural landscape resources. This information will be used to guide future site development and preserve this significant cultural landscape.

The Manzanar General Management Plan Final and Environmental Impact Statement (GMP, 1997) calls for Manzanar to be “managed as a cultural landscape relating to the internment camp era.” In this regard, the GMP provides the overall framework for the more specific treatment guidelines and schematic design concepts for the cultural landscape described in the report.



Existing conditions at Manzanar

Guidance from the GMP:

The role of restoration and reconstruction at the site needs to be considered, considering the availability of information to allow accurate restoration/reconstruction and the need for such features to support the interpretive program. (GMP/FEIS pg. 5).

...the site [Manzanar] would be managed as a cultural landscape relating to the internment camp era. To achieve this, the existing features remaining from the camp period, such as the road system, structural remains, and landscape plantings would be preserved. (GMP/FEIS pg. 10)

Roads

Much of the original road system constructed at Manzanar survives from the historic period and is a key interpretive component for enhancing visitor understanding of the historic site. Maintenance of the exposed road system also supports fire management objectives and adaptive reuse of the historic circulation system for emergency vehicles and pedestrian ways.

Treatment guidelines for roads focus on preservation and stabilization of exposed and remaining portions of the historic road grid, and a phased approach for exposing those portions of the road currently obscured by vegetation or buried by top soil. Guidelines also address the addition of new roads and parking areas as needed for operations and visitor use.



Left: Historic photo of Sixth Street in Manzanar. Right: Contemporary photo showing encroaching vegetation and accumulated soil in road bed.

Guidance from the GMP:

The camp's road system, still apparent throughout much of the area, would be rehabilitated to the extent required to retain this network as a visual element of the cultural landscape, and to allow for foot and emergency vehicle traffic. Roads...would not be paved and rehabilitation would not extend to making all the roads usable for motor vehicles. Selective thinning or clearing of plant growth and tree cover would be undertaken for the purpose of revealing the defining road grid, and the conspicuous "firebreaks" strategically located throughout the camp. (GMP/FEIS, pg. 11)

STABILIZE AND PRESERVE		
LOCATION	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
Park entrance road from Hwy 395 to B St.	Work completed in 2003	Patch and repair existing road and apply slurry coat to preserve historic fabric.
Historic Road Grid (where it exists in reasonable condition)	2	Patch and repair existing road and apply slurry coat to preserve historic fabric.
Historic parking areas, roads and pullouts that are to be used for onsite parking	1	Patch and repair existing road and apply slurry coat to preserve historic fabric.
Historic gravel roads outside the camp boundary	3	Maintain gravel roads at current width and materials that provide access to outlying associated resources.
RESTORE		
LOCATION	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
Missing segments of the historic road grid	3	These are a result of post-historic period washouts from storm events.
Buried segments of the historic road grid	2	These are a result of post-historic period washouts from storm events.
REHABILITATE		
LOCATION	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
Auto Tour Road	1	As per the GMP, the historic road is to be rehabilitated for visitor access. Surface treatment for modern use should be compatible with historic segments, yet should also be distinguishable from historic segments of the road (as per the Secretary's Standards for Rehabilitation).
Road Shoulders for Parking	3	Road shoulders can be used for parking in designated areas only. However, on-site soil should be hardened/ stabilized and differentiated from normal shoulder/soil conditions using materials like soil cement to make them appear similar to the roads. These areas need to be visually differentiated from normal road shoulders where parking is discouraged.
NON-CONTRIBUTING		
LOCATION	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
Cemetery Parking	1	Parking should minimize impact to historic scene. GMP calls for use of hardened surfacing for year- round-visitor parking.
New Entrance Road and Interpretive Center Parking area	NA: Completed in 2003	Minimize visual impact to historic scene by limiting striping, width and other visual impacts to the historic site.
Interpretive Center Parking Lot Connector to Highway 395	3	Remove after opening of the new 5 th Street entrance.



Left: Historic photo of the garden in Block 12. Right: Garden designer Zintaro Okami stands in front of the ornamental gardens in the hospital complex.

Gardens

The designed landscapes and gardens at Manzanar were an important expression of Japanese American cultural values within the regimented structure of the camp. These rich cultural traditions were expressed through a wide variety of designed spaces, ranging from large parks and public gardens, to the cemetery monument, and an array of individual gardens and personal spaces. In particular, the gardens were representative of an era in Japanese American history when landscape gardening was at its apex as a profession and hobby. Gardens at Manzanar typified the adaptability of Japanese garden design and the creative expressions of their designers.

General treatment of extant ornamental gardens focuses on:

- Stabilizing and repairing existing historic material including vegetation, concrete garden structures, walkways, and walls to ensure preservation (e.g. Blocks 12 and 22)
- Restoring features that are essential to understanding the garden

Guidance from the GMP:

Historic plant specimens at interpretive sites and major extant orchards, dating from pre-camp days, would be preserved and perpetuated through cuttings or seed propagation. Irrigation would be provided as needed. (GMP/FEIS, pg. 11)

One or more rock gardens identified as interpretive sites would be rehabilitated. Selection of gardens for rehabilitation would be based on the availability of accurate historic documentation and the recommendations of a committee to include former Manzanar internees, landscape design professionals, and cultural resource specialists. (GMP/FEIS, pg. 11)

PROPOSED TREATMENT: Restoration Based on Adequate Historic Site Documentation		
SITE	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
Auditorium	1	Pertains to west side; Restoration of pine trees and hedge
Camp Entrance	1	Restore historic road, parking, locust tree plantings and entrance sign cacti planting
Cemetery	1	Restoration of historic trees in vicinity of graves and monument
Traffic Circle	2	Restoration of Joshua tree, cacti and rock garden
PROPOSED TREATMENT: Stabilization and Replacement Of Vegetation in Kind		
SITE	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
Block 12 Mess Hall Garden	1	Priority on stabilization and health of trees because of number of extant features and removal of non-historic and encroaching vegetation.
Block 22 Mess Hall Garden	1	Priority on stabilization and health of trees because of number of extant features and removal of non-historic and encroaching vegetation.
Block 34 Mess Hall Garden	1	Priority on stabilization of site features including paths, erosion at water feature and removal of non-historic and encroaching vegetation.
Hospital Garden	1	Priority on stabilization and health of trees because of number of extant features
9 th St.: Cottonwoods Along Road	2	Priority on stabilization and health of trees. Replacement where historic locations are known
Trees surrounding the block west of the Auditorium (Between B & C Sts. and 3 rd & 4 th)	2	Priority on stabilization and health of trees. Replacement where historic locations are known. Restoration along 4 th street in support of the Demonstration Block
WCCA Entrance	2	Priority on stabilization and health of trees
6 th Street: Row of Trees Within Firebreak	3	Priority on stabilization and health of trees. Replacement where historic locations are known
Campbell Ranch Site/Judo Dojo	3	Priority on stabilization and health of trees
Admin Complex Cypress Trees	3	Replace recently fallen cypress in-kind
Chicken Ranch	3	Priority on stabilization and health of trees
Other individual site gardens	TBD	Based on a site-wide inventory of gardens, develop management alternatives based on interpretive need. Unique resources (e.g. a unique specie or method of pruning) should be a priority for management.
PROPOSED TREATMENT: Management for Overall Site Character and Preservation of Extant Features		
SITE	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
Merritt Park	1	Little historic vegetation remains. The site should be cleared of non-contributing trees and large shrubs, kept open and managed for its interpretive value.
North Park	2	Site characterized by large trees (primarily cottonwoods) that provide an open shady environment. Replacement of individual trees on a case-by-case basis is not appropriate but should be managed for the overall open/shaded character provided by cottonwoods.



Left: During internment, many orchards were pruned to restore fruit production. Right: Today, efforts focus on stabilizing and preserving historic trees.

Orchards

The orchard trees remaining at Manzanar are associated with several historic periods including early agricultural development in the Owens Valley, the Manzanar Town Era, and the Internment period when many of the orchard trees were incorporated into the landscape of the camp. Because of this, the remaining orchards at Manzanar have a unique interpretive value. Treatment guidelines target the stabilization, maintenance, and limited restoration of portions of five historic orchards remaining at the site.

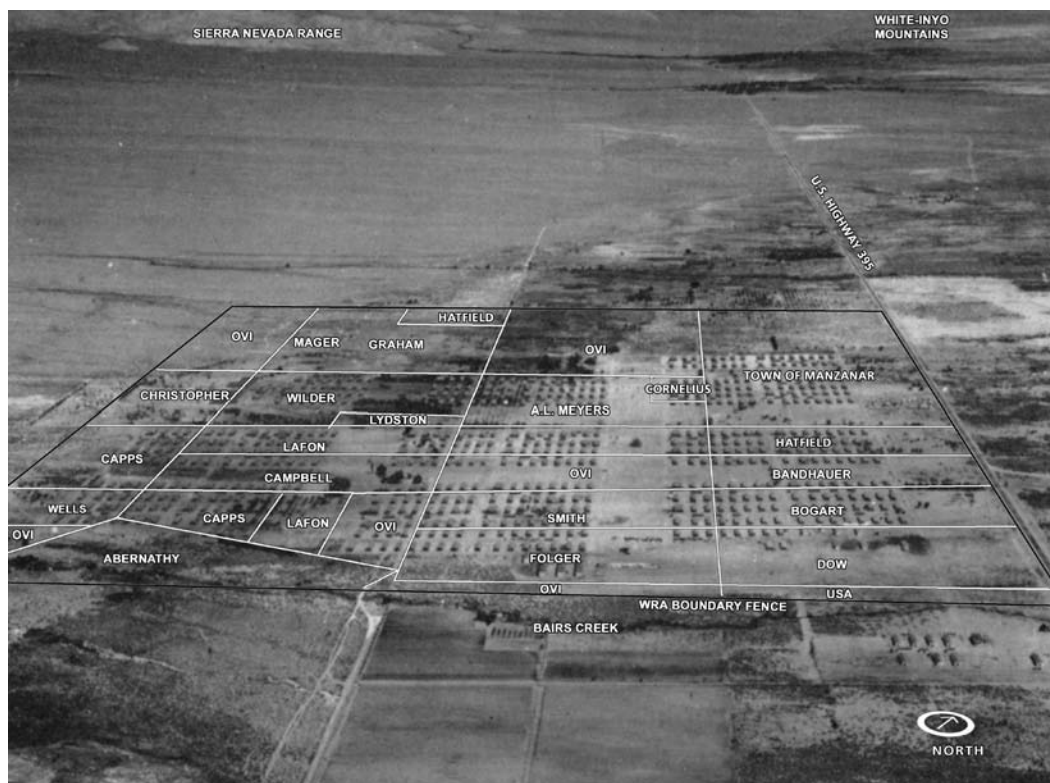
Guidance from the GMP:

The orchards are recognized as major landscape features linking two principal stages in the site's history...and major extant orchards, dating from pre-camp days, would be preserved and perpetuated through cuttings or seed propagation. Irrigation would be provided as needed. (GMP/FEIS, pg. 11)

Right: Many fruit trees that remained from the Manzanar town period were incorporated into the camp.



	PROTECT AND PRESERVE EXISTING TREES	REPLACE EXTANT DEAD OR DYEING TREES IN KIND	REHABILITATE/RESTORE MISSING ORCHARD	
ORCHARD	Priority	Priority	Priority	NOTES
Hatfield West (Pear)	1	1	1	Rehabilitate/restore for interpretive purposes
Hatfield East (Pear)	1	1	3	Priority on stabilization of sand pear
Lafon (Apple/pear)	1	1	1	Priority on preventing loss of three remaining trees. Rehabilitate/restore extent of orchard for interpretive purposes
Lydston (Pear)	1	2	3	Emphasis on preservation of existing trees
Wilder (Pear)	1	2	3	Emphasis on preservation of existing trees, particularly the Winter Nellice pear
Christopher (Peach)	NA	NA	1	Rehabilitate form and character of only those portions of the orchard contained within the cemetery enclosure (see Schematic Design for Cemetery)
Others	1	2	3	Emphasis on preservation of any unique stock and trees with high interpretive value

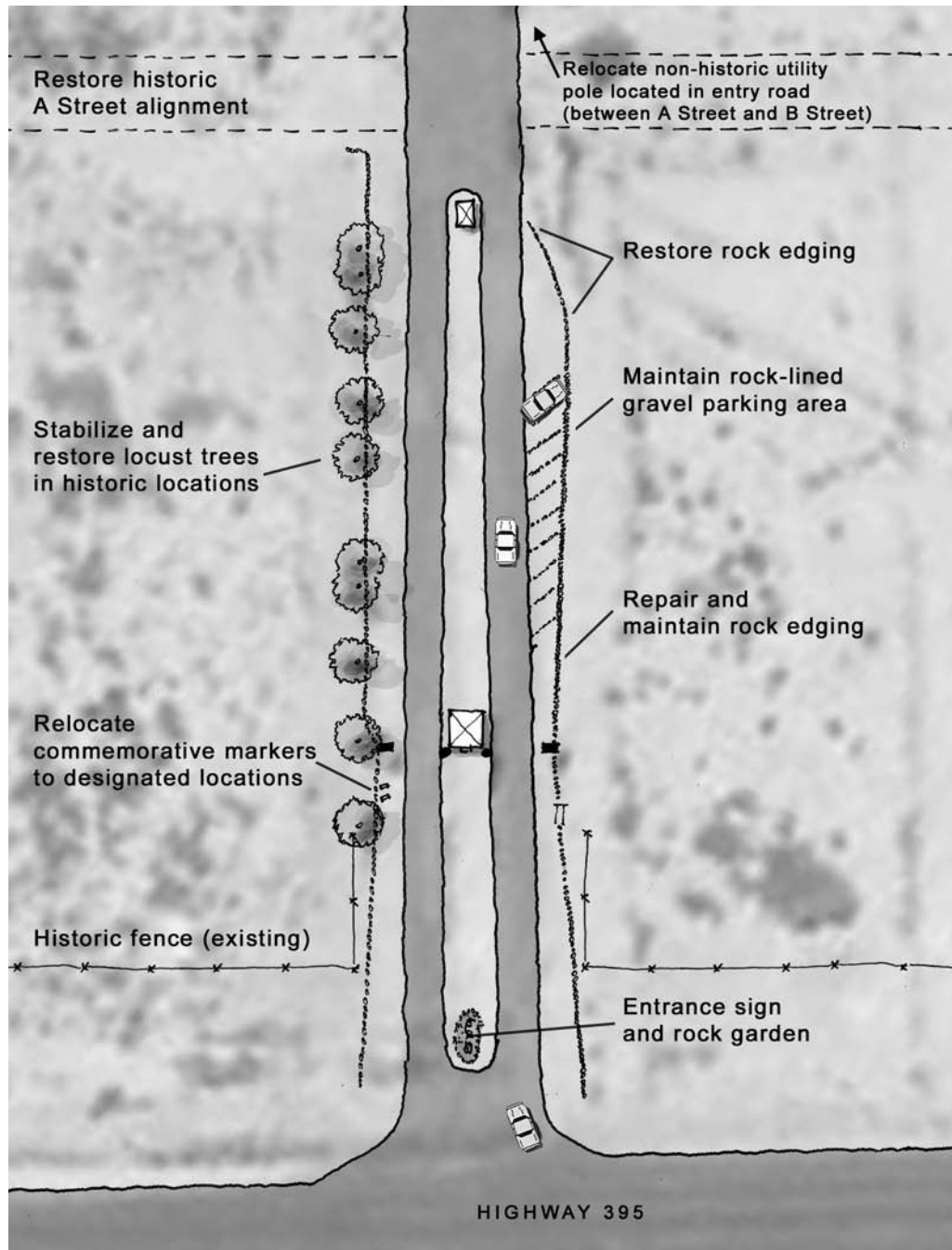




Historic Entrance

Recommendations address restoring the landscape character and features of the historic entrance to the camp period 1942-1945, including:

1. Repairing and restoring features associated with historic entrance using archeological and photographic evidence to assure accurate restoration. Treatments include:
 - Repairing the rock-lined gravel parking area
 - Repairing the stone curb along the road edge
 - Maintaining the historically-paved road between Highway 395 and B Street
 - Restoring row of locust trees along the south side of the entrance road
 - Relocating non-historic features (e.g. utility pole, NPS fence, commemorative markers, etc.)



Proposed treatment plan for the historic entrance.

Guidance from the GMP:

In order to restore the historic scene at the entrance, and provide for their improved protection, all memorial plaques now placed at the historic camp entrance, including the National Landmark Plaque, the State historical marker, and the Blue Star Memorial Highway marker, would be relocated to the vicinity of the interpretive center. (GMP/FEIS, pg. 16)

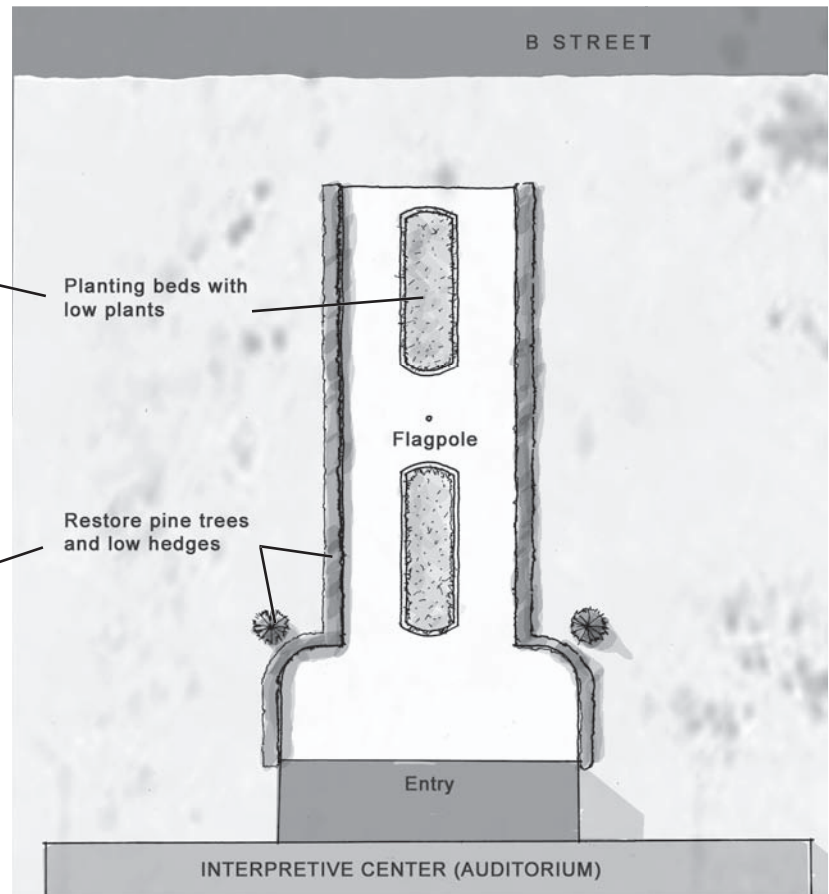
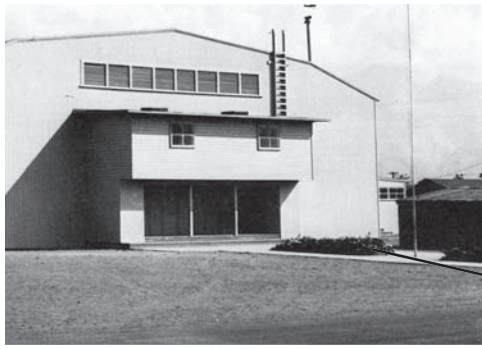


Interpretive Center (Auditorium)

The historic auditorium building has been rehabilitated to serve as the Interpretive Center for the historic site. Recommendations for treatment of the cultural landscape address restoring the historic character of the landscape to circa 1944.

Guidance from the GMP:

The auditorium would be adaptively used as an interpretive center. This in general terms would entail the restoration of the exterior of the structure to its camp era appearance, including replacement of the south wing... (GMP/FEIS, pg. 14)



*Left: Historic photos showing the landscape planting in front of the auditorium.
Right: proposed restoration of historic planting plan.*

Treatments for the west side of the building include:

1. Reestablishing the pine trees and low hedges on both sides of the entry walkway.

Treatments on the east side of the building address maintaining the historic character of the area by:

1. Retaining the historically open character of this area.
2. Exposed soil should be allowed to revegetate with a low native vegetative cover. Exotic species control will be important until the area has stabilized.
3. Reducing visual impacts by locating informational signs and commemorative monuments away from the historic structure and closer to the drop-off area, or along the existing concrete sidewalks. Design and placement of any new Interpretive Center sign should be compatible with 1) the historic setting, 2) the existing design of the area, and 3) the placement of other signs and relocated monuments (from historic camp entrance area).

Demonstration Block

The purpose of the demonstration block is to enhance the interpretive environment and visitor understanding of the historic site. Because so little historical documentation of Block 14 exists, accurate restoration of individual barrack gardens is not possible. Recommendations suggest what landscape elements should be restored based on historical information, including:

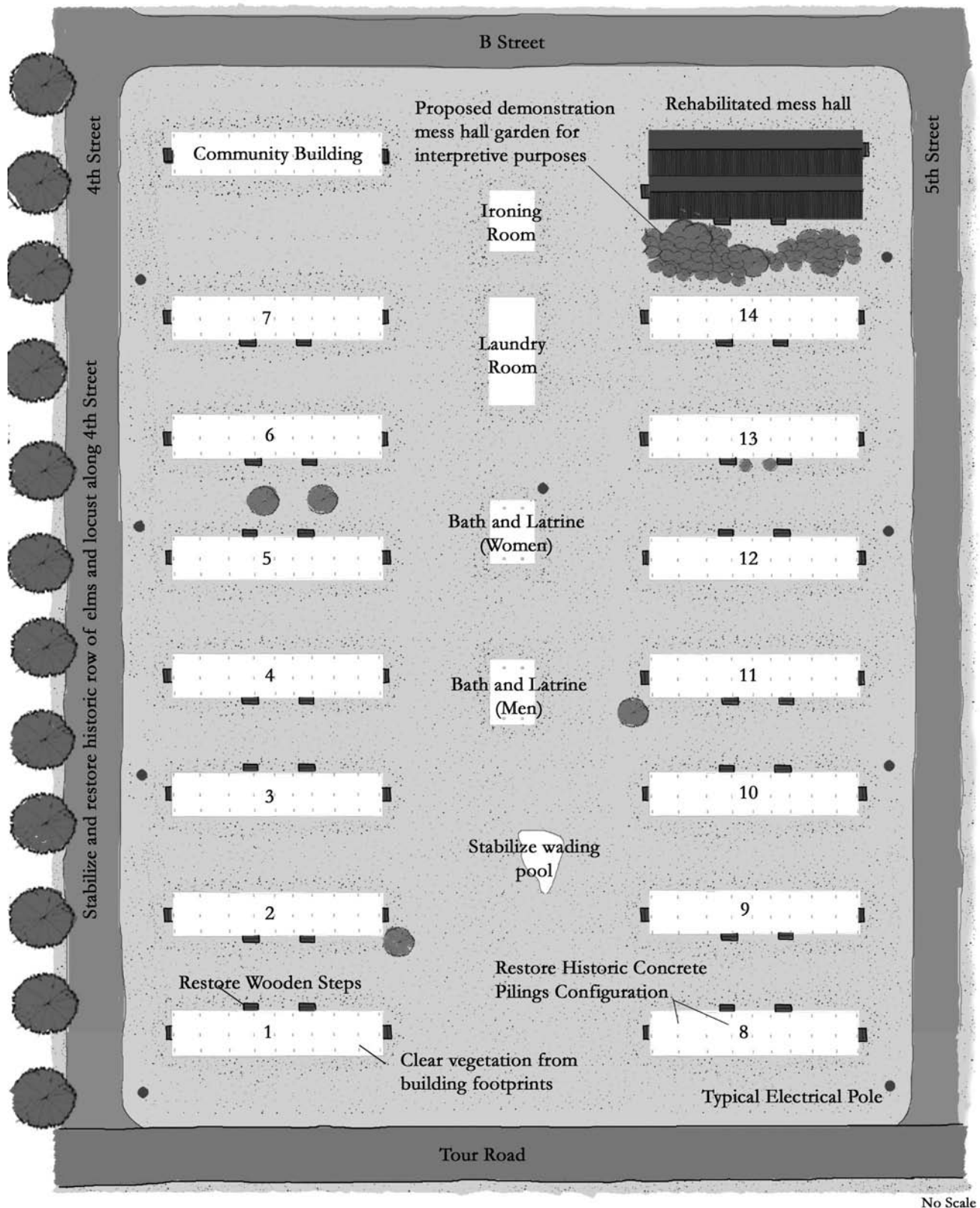
1. Restoring landscape elements that remain from the historic period but are ill-defined or obscured by vegetation or soils such as roads, concrete foundations, the wading pool, building entry features, and internal circulation.
2. Creating a representative mess hall garden for interpretive purposes in close collaboration with interested citizens, using historical information to replicate to the degree possible, the design, materials, and character of a period mess hall garden.
3. Reconstructing two barracks, latrines, and laundry room for interpretive purposes.



Relocating and restoring historic barracks for interpretive purposes.

Guidance from the GMP:

One or more barracks would be placed in a demonstration block... . Blocks 8 and 14, located immediately to the west of the auditorium, would be designated as "demonstration" blocks. The corners of all structures in these blocks would be marked, and waysides would explain the design, function and family-living implications of each of the structures, including barracks, mess halls, latrines, laundry rooms, etc... One or more of the barracks would be relocated or reconstructed in this area. (GMP/FEIS, pg. 15)



Proposed plan for the rehabilitated demonstration block.

Cemetery

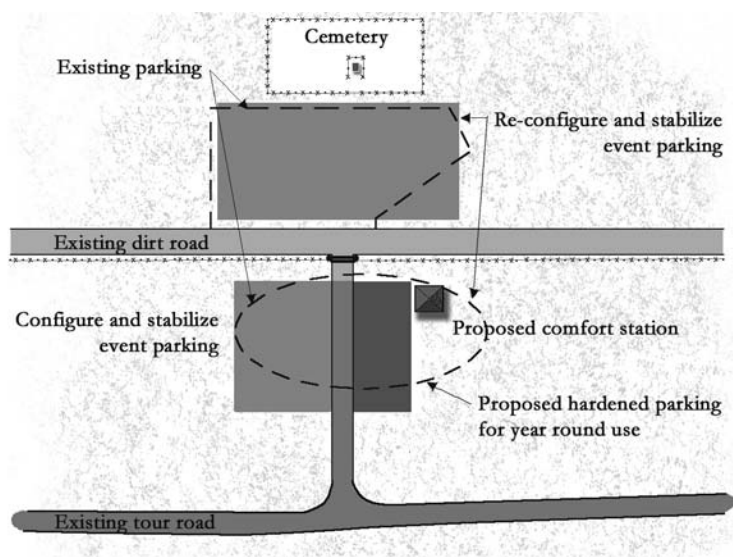
The cemetery is comprised of several significant features that taken together create a distinct design. Schematic concepts for the cemetery focus on configurations for parking areas, restoration of historic features, and preservation of the monument. Recommendations include:

1. Focusing use of the parking area west of the boundary fence to meet accessibility needs, act as turnaround and drop-off for tour/school buses, and to meet staging requirement for the annual pilgrimage.
2. Reestablish the locust and peach trees within the cemetery boundary that can be documented from historic photos as part of the historic setting for the site. Emphasis should be on restoring the historic character of these trees, not fruit production.
3. Encouraging visitor parking in a designated paved parking pullout area east of the boundary fence and north of tour route (~5 cars and a bus, or approx. 2000 sq. ft or less).
4. Limiting the use of the overflow parking area on the south side of the tour road (7th street) as it approaches the boundary fence and cemetery for special events and/or as a year-round large vehicle turnaround area only (buses and RVs).
5. Minimizing the impact to historic scene by locating a new comfort station in the northeast corner of the parking lot, providing maximum visual and physical separation between the cemetery and the new structure.

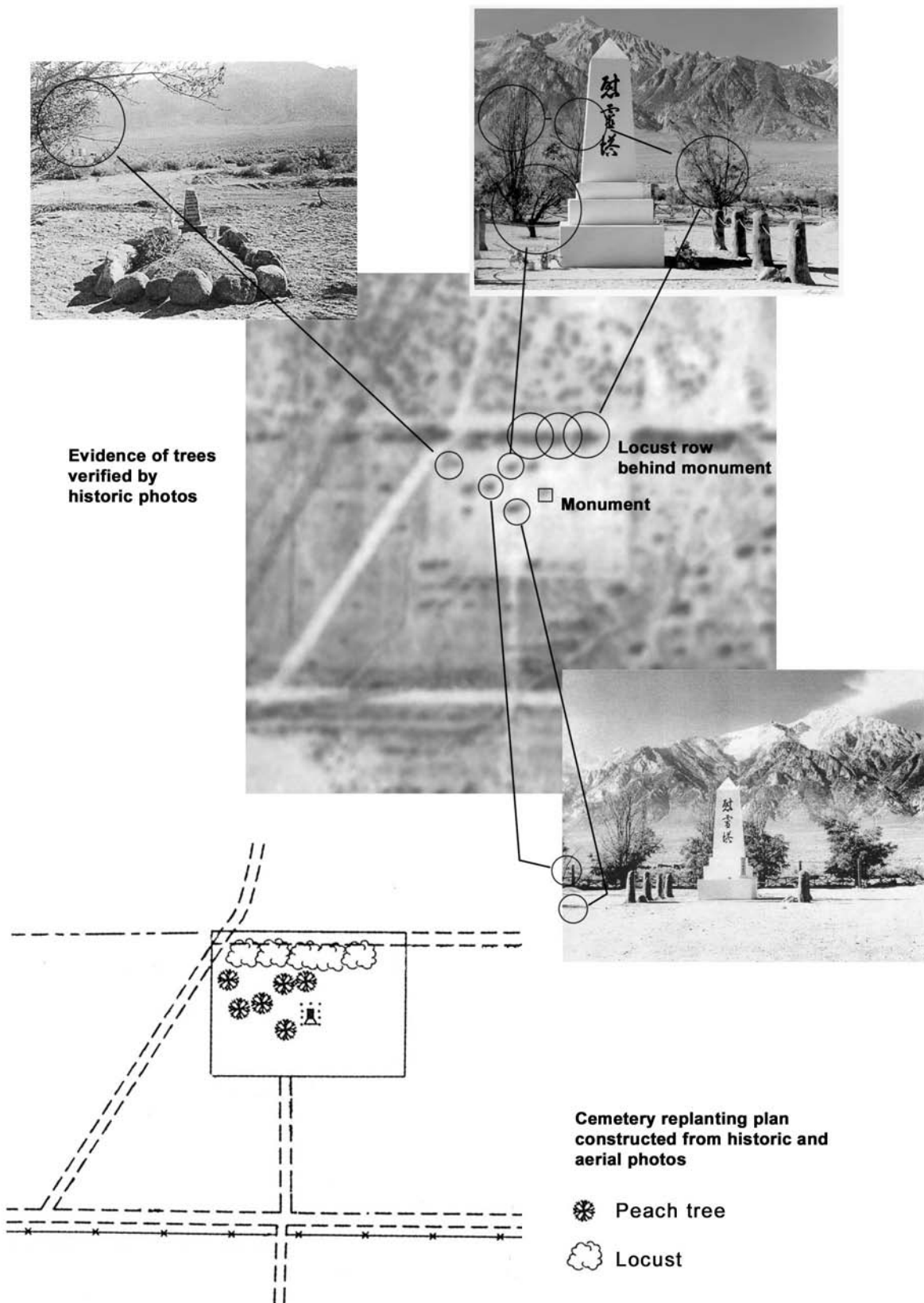
Guidance from the GMP:

The parking area located at the cemetery area would be designed with an overflow area to accommodate the large number of cars and buses at the pilgrimage. Only the main parking area at the auditorium would be paved; other areas would be compacted earth, treated with a dust palliative. Layout, design, and the location of the parking areas would recognize the potential need for current overflow parking, as well as the possible need for future permanent expansion. (GMP/FEIS, pg.17)

Public restrooms would be provided in the interpretive center and at the parking lot near the cemetery. (GMP/FEIS, pg. 18)



Proposed parking plan for the cemetery



Contemporary plan drawing of the cemetery showing locust trees and peach trees to be restored based on historic photos and historic aerial photo. (adapted from I Rei To, 2001)